

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 009029
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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:GWCHAPMAN:LB
APPROVED BY EUR/SE:RCEWING
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON ECEVIT STATEMENTS ON CYPRUS

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE ON RECENT ECEVIT STATEMENTS ON CYPRUS
ISSUE WAS PREPARED FOR JANUARY 12 DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING.

BEGIN QUOTE. QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE
RECENT STATEMENTS OF TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT CONCERN-
ING THE CYPRUS ISSUE?

ANSWER: WE HAVE BEEN MOST ENCOURAGED BY INDICATIONS THAT
THE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO WORK FOR A RAPID
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SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT'S
STATEMENTS THAT HE WILL PRESS FOR AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF
INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS UNDER UN AEGIS AND THAT HE WILL TAKE
THE INITIATIVE REGARDING THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND TERRITORIAL
ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM ARE INDEED VERY WELCOME.

FROM THE REPORTS THAT WE HAVE SEEN, IT APPEARS THAT PRIME

MINISTER ECEVIT AND U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM HAD A VERY POSITIVE DISCUSSION ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE EARLIER THIS WEEK. THE SECRETARY GENERAL EXPRESSED HIS ENCOURAGEMENT FOLLOWING THESE TALKS, AND WELCOMED PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT'S SUPPORT FOR RESUMPTION OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS.

WE ALSO CONSIDER IT ENCOURAGING THAT GREEK PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS HAS NOTED "WITH SATISFACTION" PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT'S RECENT STATEMENTS ON GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND ON CYPRUS. END QUOTE.

2. GUIDANCE WAS NOT USED JANUARY 12. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 12 jan 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: GWCHAPMAN:LB
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